

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for transferring media data to a network coupled apparatus,
2 comprising:
3 (a) maintaining a personal information space identified with a user
4 including media data, the personal information space being coupled to a
5 network; and
6 (b) transferring at least a portion of the media data from the
7 personal information space to the network coupled apparatus in a
8 differencing transaction in response to a user request.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 further including the step, prior to step (a), of
2 receiving information into the personal information space.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of receiving comprises
2 receiving data from a first network coupled apparatus, and said step (b)
3 includes transferring said media data to a second network coupled
4 apparatus.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 further including the step, following step (a),
2 of identifying the private information space associated with the user by
3 prompting a user login from said automotive computer and retrieving login

4 information input by the user.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said step (b) comprises transferring
2 said at least a portion of media data in the form of a plurality of differencing
3 transactions.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the digital media comprises a directory
2 of digital media files.

1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein said step (a) comprises providing a
2 storage server having a network connection, and code on the storage server
3 interacting with the personal information space; and the method further
4 includes the step, prior to said step (b), of:

5 generating at least a first differencing transaction comprising at least
6 a portion of said media data to be transferred in said step (b).

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the method further includes:
2 (c) providing code on a network-coupled apparatus which receives
3 said at least portion of the media data and stores the media data on the
4 network-coupled apparatus.

1 9. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of transferring comprises

2 instantiating code on a network-coupled server storing said personal
3 information space to output the media data to the network-coupled
4 apparatus.

1 10. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of transferring comprises
2 instantiating code on the network-coupled apparatus to retrieve the media
3 data.

1 11. A method for managing information on a plurality of Internet coupled
2 devices, comprising:

3 determining digital media content to be synchronized by reference to
4 a user specified set of personal information devices including at least one of
5 said plurality of Internet coupled devices;

6 storing information in a personal information store coupled to the
7 Internet and identified with a particular user; and

8 providing said determined digital media content to said at least one
9 of said plurality of Internet coupled devices in a differenced transaction.

1 12. The method of claim 11 wherein said step of determining comprises:

2 providing code enabling a sync enable button on a public information
3 web site; and

4 providing code responsive to the sync enable button transferring

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5 public media content to a field.

1 13. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of determining comprises
2 selecting digital media content from a public Internet server.

1 14. The method of claim 11 wherein said step of determining comprises
2 selecting digital media content on a network-coupled apparatus.

1 15. The method of claim 14 wherein the network-coupled apparatus is a
2 personal computer.

1 16. The method of claim 14 wherein the network-coupled apparatus is a
2 stereo.

1 17. The method of claim 14 wherein the network-coupled apparatus is an
2 automotive personal computer.

1 18. The method of claim 14 wherein the network-coupled apparatus is an
2 MP3 player.

1 19. The method of claim 14 wherein the step of determining comprises
2 selecting digital content from a secured Internet site.

1 20. The method of claim 11 wherein said step of providing comprises
2 transferring differences in the digital media file, and further includes the step
3 of:
4 storing said digital media content on said Internet-coupled devices.

1 21. The method of claim 11 wherein said step of providing comprises
2 providing a plurality of differenced transactions in a streaming format for
3 processing by the Internet-coupled device.

1 22. The method of claim 11 wherein said step of determining comprises:
2 providing code enabling a sync enable button on a public information
3 web site; and
4 providing code responsive to the sync enable button to initiate a
5 transfer of the digital media.

1 23. A method of managing media information, comprising:
2 (a) providing at least one information server including at least one
3 private information store, the server being coupled to a network; and
4 (b) receiving change transactions from a digital media access
5 agent, the transactions indicating to add, delete or modify digital media in the
6 private information store.

1 24. The method for managing media information of claim 23 wherein said
2 step (b) comprises the sub-steps of:

3 (b1) providing an agent the information server; and

4 (b2) instantiating the agent to request change transactions from at
5 least one network-coupled apparatus.

1 25. The method for managing media information of claim 23 further
2 including the steps of:

3 providing an agent on said information server to generate change
4 transactions;

5 providing an agent on a network-coupled apparatus to receive the
6 change transactions; and

7 instantiating the agent on the network-coupled apparatus to request
8 from the agent on the at least one information server said change
9 transactions.

1 26. The method of claim 23 further including the step of adding, deleting,
2 or modifying digital media in the private information store.

1 27. A system for transferring digital media between a plurality of network
2 coupled devices, comprising:

3 a personal information store containing digital media;
4 a data transfer request initiator coupled to the personal information
5 store; and
6 a device engine operatively coupled to the data transfer request
7 initiator and responsive to the initiator to transfer digital media between the
8 store and one of said plurality of network coupled devices.

1 28. The system of claim 27 wherein the personal information store is
2 provided on a server.

1 29. The system of claim 28 wherein the server is coupled to the Internet.

1 30. The system of claim 28 wherein the server includes at least a portion
2 of the device engine.

1 31. The system of claim 27 wherein the device engine is provided on a
2 server which includes at least a portion of the personal information store.

1 32. The system of claim 31 wherein the data transfer request initiator is
2 provided on said at least one of said plurality of network-coupled devices
3 and comprises code on said one of said plurality of network-coupled devices
4 to operatively engage the device engine to transfer digital media between

5 the store and the one of the plurality of network-coupled devices.

1 33. The system of claim 27 wherein the device engine is provided on said
2 one of said plurality of network-coupled devices.

1 34. A media server coupled to an open system communications network,
2 comprising:

3 an information store including a user defined set of digital media;
4 code, responsive to a request from the user, to provide digital media
5 comprising at least one member of the user defined set of digital media to
6 the user via a user agent.

1 35. The media server of claim 34 wherein said code generates a set of
2 at least one differenced transaction to provide said digital media to the user.

1 36. The media server of claim 34 wherein said code comprises a device
2 engine generating differenced transactions to provide said digital media to
3 the user via a user agent.

1 37. The media server of claim 34 wherein the information store comprises
2 a series of differenced transactions divided into individual sets of digital
3 media.